



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

Utah State Board of Education Board Meeting,
Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB),
USB E Work Session, and
Continued Business from the previous
meeting on August 7, 2025.
1:00 to 4:30 PM

A regular Utah State Board of Education meeting was held on August 8, 2025. Chair Hymas presided. As Utah Code 52-4 authorized, this meeting was held at the state board offices, 250 E. 500 S, Salt Lake City, Utah. The public can view the discussion through live YouTube streaming.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas,
First Vice-Chair Amanda Bollinger
Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood
Member Christina Boggess
Member Joseph Kerry
Member Randy Boothe
Member Joann Brinton

Member Jennie Earl
Member Sarah Reale
Member Rod Hall
Member Cole Kelley
Member Emily Green
Member Erin Longacre
Member Cindy Davis

Members Online

Member Carol Lear

Executive Staff Present

Molly Hart, State Superintendent
 Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
 Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent
 Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Others present

Ashley Biehl, Assistant Attorney General, Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent,
 Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent, Tami Gear, Tanya Albornoz, Becca Rae, and
 Jennifer Wadsworth.

Chair Hymas called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Board Meeting**ACTION: SHINE (Supporting Highly Impactful Needs in Education) Program**

MOTION was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board adopt the USDB Highly Needed Education Salary Supplement (SHINE) Program as outlined in the policy.

The motion carried.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Brinton, Bollinger, Hymas, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Boggess, Green, Longacre, and Hall.

1 ABSTAINED: Member Reale.

2 ABSENT: Members Kerry and Lear.

Approval of School Calendars

MOTION was made by Member Boothe and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board approve the school calendars for Utah School of the Blind (USB) in Ogden, SLC, and Springville campuses.

The motion passed unanimously.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Brinton, Bollinger, Hymas, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Reale, and Hall.

2 ABSENT: Members Kerry and Lear.

Wasatch Transportation Contract Amendment

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board approve the Wasatch Transportation contract amendment.

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Brinton, Bollinger, Hymas, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Reale, Lear, and Hall.

1 ABSENT: Member Kerry.

Study Session

Student Data Privacy and Data Systems

Katy Challis, Director of Privacy

Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics

Jared Felt, Director of Information Technology

Unfinished Board Business from the August 7, 2025, Meeting

R277-613, LEA Policies and Training Regarding Bullying, Cyber-bullying, Hazing, Retaliation, and Abusive Conduct (Amendment)

MOTION was made by Member Kerry that the Board approve R277-613, LEA Policies and Training Regarding Bullying, Cyber-bullying, Hazing, Retaliation, and Abusive Conduct, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Earl that the Board strike lines 49-52 and replace with the following language: “civil rights violations mean violations outlined in the following federal laws:” (lines 53-56)

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board strike the words “that is prohibited” from line 40.

With no opposition, the Board instructed staff to remove the language from the rule.

MOTION TO POSTPONE was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Hall that the R277-613, LEA Policies and Training Regarding Bullying, Cyber-bullying, Hazing, Retaliation, and Abusive Conduct (Amendment) item be postponed to Friday, August 8, unfinished business schedule.

Without objection – motion withdrawn.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board insert on Line 44, “Accountability practices means the same as described in Rule R277-609.”

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board strike “cause” on Line 67 and replace it with “instigate.”

The motion carried.

10 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, and Longacre.

5 OPPOSED: Members Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

Member Hymas passed the gavel to Vice Chair Bollinger.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board strike “non-consensual intimate” on Line 147 and replace it with “sexually explicit”

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Brinton that the Board amend Line 147 to read: “creation or distribution.....”

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

Vice Chair Bollinger passed the gavel to Chair Hymas.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board strike “non-consensual intimate” on Line 147 and replace it with “sexually explicit”

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board amend Line 147 to read, “sexually explicit or nonconsensual intimate.....”

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board strike from Line 294 the language “take positive restorative justice practice action” and replace it with “employee accountability practices”

The motion carried.

11 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Kelley, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Hymas, and Boothe.

4 OPPOSED: Members Reale, Lear, Wood, and Bollinger.

1 ABSTAINED: Member Davis.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board amend Line 304 and insert “written, informed” after “obtain” as follows:

“obtain written informed consent from the student’s parent.”

The motion failed.

6 IN FAVOR: Members Brinton, Hall, Longacre, Boggess, Kelley, and Green.

9 OPPOSED: Members Kerry, Bollinger, Davis, Earl, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded that the Board amend Line 214 - Insert “ including: (i) Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community

School District, 393 US 503 (1969); and (ii) Connick v. Myers, 461 US 138 (1983), and the Pickering/Connick test.

The motion failed.

5 IN FAVOR: Members Kelley, Brinton, Green, Boggess, and Kerry.

10 OPPOSED: Members Lear, Hall, Longacre, Bollinger, Davis, Earl, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded that the Board amend Lines 208-12 to insert after actual, “, immutable characteristics as defined in federal or state law.” Strike the remainder of the language after actual.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Brinton that the Board amend Lines 208-12: After “based upon,” insert “race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability.” Strike the remainder of the language.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Kelley, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Boothe, Reale, Lear, Wood, Bollinger, and Davis.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Earl that the Board strike lines 49-52 and replace with the following language: “civil rights violations mean violations outlined in the following federal laws:” (lines 53-56)

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Kelley, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Boothe, Reale, Lear, Wood, Bollinger, and Davis.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board amend Line 215 to read, “safe digital citizenship as defined in 53G-7-1202(1)(a).” -

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Kelley, Earl, Hall, Boggess, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Boothe, Reale, Lear, Wood, Bollinger, and Davis.

FINAL MOTION, AS AMENDED

MOTION was made by Member Kerry that the Board approve R277-613, LEA Policies and Training Regarding Bullying, Cyber-bullying, Hazing, Retaliation, and Abusive Conduct, Draft 1, as amended, on second and final reading.

The motion carried.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Green, Longacre, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, and Boothe.

1 OPPOSED: Member Boggess.

MOTION TO POSTPONE was made by Member Kelley and seconded by Member Bollinger that the Board move agenda items R277-400 and R277-726 to the September 2025 board meeting.

The motion carried.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Green, Longacre, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Boggess, Wood, and Boothe.

Executive Session (closed in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act)

The motion was made by Member Boothe and seconded that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of

- a person's character, competence, or health;
- pending or imminent litigation;
- certain matters regarding the acquisition or sale of real property, including water rights or shares;
- the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems;
- an investigation of alleged criminal conduct;
- the receipt or review of an ethics complaint if the public body is the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission;
- certain matters under the jurisdiction of a legislative ethics committee; and
- certain deliberations and decision-making involved in the procurement process.

Upon the voice vote of Members Lear, Reale, Boggess, Boothe, Wood, Kerry, Lear, Brinton, Earl, Green, Longacre Hymas, Davis, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board entered a closed session at 4:42 PM.

The following individuals were also present: Molly Hart, Cybil Prideaux, Kelsey James, Angela Doan, Dakota Cambruzzi, Ashley Biehl, and Scott Jones.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Brinton that the Board come out of the executive session.

Upon voice vote of Members Reale, Boggess, Boothe, Wood, Davis, Kerry, Lear, Brinton, Earl, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board came out of the executive session at 5:45 PM.

MOTION was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board appoint Dr. Molly Hart as the Interim Superintendent of the Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB), effective immediately up to the end of 2025.

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Kerry, Brinton, Bollinger, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Hall, Green, Longacre, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Boggess, Wood, and Boothe.

1 ABSENT: Member Lear.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boothe.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes were approved on September 4, 2025.